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If our friends who favor us with manuscripts fo must in all cases send stamps for that purpose

A Discourager of Apathy.

That veteran campaigner, the Hon. NATHAN BAY SCOTT of West Virginia, talks sense when he says that the Republicans can lose the next House of Representatives in the elections this fall only through uncommon apaths.

Indications of dangerous apathy are not at this time discernible. Republicans throughout the Union seem to be wide awake to the immensity of the disaster which would befall the country if the control of the House of Representatives should pass to the heterogeneous Democracy midway in President ROOSEVELT'S term of office. If this general perception of the importance the right sort of practical activity in campaign work from now till November, that national misfortune is not very likely to occur.

The Journey of the President through New England, and, later, through several of the Western States, is bound to have a stimulating effect upon the public concern with contemporaneous politics. Mr. ROOSEVELT this morning interrupts his purely nominal summer rest at his home in Oyster Bay and starts on a tour which will bring him face to face with the people of Connecticut. Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine and Vermont. A month hence he goes to Indiana. Before the in self defence. voting in November his travels will tions to the oratory of the campaign to be commended. considerable.

The more of both the better. The personality of the President, the affectionately human interest which his presence excites, the vigorous impetus which his spirited speeches impart to political thought, and the example he sets to other Republicans who may be disposed to take things for granted, are worth more than a million copies of the Campaign Book.

The President will exert t influence legitimately, and without t slightest damage to his personal and official dignity, for the sake of the common cause at a most important juncture.

Louisiana the Rice State.

Sugar and cotton are Louisiana's staples, but lately there has been so large an increase in its product of rice that not only has South Carolina, heretofore the chief rice-producing State man Cathol. Church is one and indiof the country, been surpassed, but | visible. Variations of fundamental doc-Louisiana is now producing more rice combined, with a big surplus.

In 1850, Georgia, in which at an early period rice cultivation was carried forward on most progressive lines, produced 38,000,000 pounds to 160,000,000 raised in South Carolina. This was the period of the highest point of rice-production of the Palmetto State. In 1860, Georgia's product had risen to 52,000,000 and South Carolina's, though still very large, had declined to 120,000,000. Meanwhile, the product of Louisiana averaged about 5,000,000 pounds a year. Since the close of the war the increase of Louisiana's rice product has been as follows:

23,000,000 1800...... 75,000,00

The present average rice crop of South Carolina is less than one-third what it was half a century ago. Georgia's product is one-quarter what it was in 1860, but Louisiana has so largely increased her production as to leave all the other States behind, and present reports are that this increase is being more than maintained.

The claim is made that the Southern Gulf States all offer excellent opportunities for larger rice culture. The United States import about as much rice as is-grown in this country. Heretofore the rice has been grown on wholly swampy or partly submerged land where the use of labor-saving machinery has been difficult, if not impracticable; but within a few years past the employment of scientific methods of artificial irrigation has greatly increased the riceproducing area of the Gulf States, notably Louisiana and Texas.

Besides the use of rice as human food, which is pretty general in the South, rice flour is fed to five stock and is used, too. in starch making. The hulls or shells of the rice are employed as a fuel, for which there is a large and increasing Southern demand.

The German Army Manœuvres.

The reasons given by the German press agents for the change of headquarters of the Emperor and staff during the approaching army manœuvres in Germany are plausible, but not convincing. They would make what is really a matter of international policy appear an act of petty spite on the innkeepers of Posen because of the opposition of their three millions of Polish fellow countrymen to forcible Germanization.

The cause of the Emperor's decision is higher than that. The misfortune is that he too frequently overdoes his part, and, when pleased to think himself personally slighted, assumes that all Germany necessarily feels itself insulted. That he and his Chancellor both made a mistake when they declared their determination to crush the Poles was very soon made clear to them, not only by the tone of the Polish press in Russia and the meetings of protest held in Aus- are in direct, conscious and persistent opposition got the whooping cough:" "The infant fore a court of justice.

trian Poland, but by the German news-

paper press itself.

The threat of the Emperor WILLIAM to march through the Province of Posen with an army of ninety thousand men to overawe his Polish subjects, however, was the climax. Then the question assumed an international importence. It was impossible for the Russian Government to regard with indifference a military promenade of the kind with a political purpose within sight of its western frontier and of its Polish subjects: while the Government of Germany's ally, Austria, was bound to consider the sentiments of the Poles of

Galicia, and its other millions of Slavs. The transfer of the German Emperor's headquarters from Posen, in the centre of German Poland and close to the Russian border, to Frankfort-on-the-Oder, within easy distance of Berlin and in the Mark of Brandenburg, the citadel of the Hohenzollerns, is therefore explicable. Its cause may be traced back to that meeting of the German and Russian sovereigns at Reval on the Baltic, of which we have heard so little, and with-

out doubt to friendly hints from Vienna. Good policy and international comity toward the other two partitioners of Poland, as well as consideration for the freely expressed sentiments of his own people, demanded moderation on the part

of the Emperor WILLIAM. The Polish people as a whole also cannot be ignored. Their vitality as a race is remarkable, and the persistence of of the Congress elections of 1902 inspires | the national idea among them under oppression compels the respect of their rulers. Under the crown of Austria they occupy a favored position racially and politically, and in this way exercise a strong influence on its external policy. Although a member of the Triple Alliance. Austria, through its Polish Minister of Foreign Affairs, has cultivated friendly relations with Russia. Trouble accompanied by disorder in German Poland as a consequence of too harsh an attempt at repression of Polish national sentiment might easily cause such disturbance among their Polish subjects as would compel the Russian and Austrian governments to joint action of some kind

The decision of the Emperor WILhave been extensive, and his contribu- LIAM, therefore, is an act of wisdom and

> Freedom of Discussion in the Catholic Church

Readers of THE SUN not of the Roman Catholic faith may have been surprised by the freedom and even severity of criticism of ecclesiastical methods and policies which have been exercised and exhibited by eminent Catholic priests whose letters have been printed by us. The prevailing Protestant notion is that the Catholi. pris thood is under a des- of it: potic restrain. anich forbids the expression of it avaual opinions on all such matters and compels a stagnant monotony of uttered sentiment. These letters must have removed that impression very effectually.

Of course, Catholic priests do not and connot differ as to great questions of ctrine authoritatively established de n c. Theologically, as to faith, the Rotrine, symbolized in radically conflicting practices, which exist so markedly in the Episcopal Church, for example, are not to be found in it. Intellectuai freedom, however, is boldly asserted by priests, as the letters to which we have referred bear witness so abundantly, in the discussion of questions not thus authoritatively settled and in the criticism of mere expediencies of ecclesiastical administration. As examples of this exercise of intellectual liberty we cite the letters of "Stanislaus Thomas," printed some time since, critical of the efforts of religious orders to acquire the ascendancy, and the very spirited letter we published on Wednesday last from an eloquent Trenton priest. It will have been seen, also, that there has been a wide and even bitter disagreement among our many priestly correspondents who have discussed the question of the Philippines friars, extending from hearty support of the policy of the President to the sharpest assault on it. As our very able Trenton correspondent said on Wednesay, quoting the authority of Cardinal BELLARMINE. the famous controversialist of the sixteenth century and a great stickler for the dogmatic rights of the Papacy, he,

the Pope what they think on matters in which they individually and collectively are interested." Exercising this privilege, a Catholic writer in this week's number of the Independent discusses " the present position of Catholicity " with the greatest freedom and frankness. He is described by the editor as " a cleric who has been preferred' to a place of influence and authority in the Roman Catholic Church: and evidently he is a man of intellectual strength, large study and observation

on his part, and American Catholics gen-

erally, "have a perfect right to tell even

and much literary cultivation. Signing himself." Prælatus," he proceeds, first, to describe " the deplorable condition of the Church in the Latin countries " and then to point out and consider its causes. We will quote detached sentences as to this condition in the

different Latin States: " In Italy the nation is rallying to the support of the anathematized monarchy, preferring evidently to be apostates from the Papacy rather than allens

to their country." " In Spain the rising flood of democracy has set for itself the overwhelming of the Church as well as of the monarchy."

" In Belgium the masses hate the clerey as their chief opponents in the fight for popular suffrage." " In France the most cautious and conservative observers assure us of the mournful fact that the decatholicizing of the country has gone to an appalling extent. Not alone in the great cities, but among the peasant classes, the Church has waned and faded, until she seems a very ghost of her ancient splendor, and her deserted sanctuaries are as the tomb of her historic past." [A Jesuit writing

in the conservative Etudes quoted as authority.1 For the causes of this "deplorable condition " " Prælatus " summarizes the conclusions reached by Abbé CHARLES DENIS, in a recent brochure published at Paris:

" Many unwise leaders of European Catholicity

to popular liberty and to legitimate freedom of hought: and it is owing to this that the Church

as suffered the most serious of her reverses " In the social order the Church is regarded as inseparable from a policy of government which has been thrown aside forever. Clericalism and monarchism are considered one; and not without reason. For it is always the ecclesiastical party that fights stubbornly against democratic reforms, and when these reforms have been wrested by the people holds disdainfully aloof from any participation in a regime that is solled by the hands of the plebelan."

This futile, fatuous resistance to an environment to which every divine and every human interest calls us to adapt ourselves" is pursued in France, the Abbé tells us, in spite of the " repeated admonitions and supplications of LEO XIII. to accept and support the Republic." In defiance of the spirit and injunction of the Pope "the bulk of French ecclesiastics are still indulging diseased dreams of monarchical restoration." Naturally, there is democratic revolt against the Church " when Catholic leaders preferthe satisfaction of stupid political prejudices to the salvation of immortal souls." Meanwhile, he adds, in Belgium the clerical party "insults the world's intelligence by arguments drawn from mediæval canonists and theologians to prove the disastrousness of democracy.

Abbé CHARLES DENIS refers also to the damage done to Christianity by ignorant priestly resistance to a prevailing conviction that the Christian idea conflicts with the "scientific idea," or with natural laws. Accordingly, he calls for a radical reform in seminary education, under which all questions shall be thrown open to the priest. " Philosophical and scientific problems must be put before him seriously," says the Abbé, and not with that contemptuous and summary refutation which leaves in his mind an unfair disdain for contemporary questions." To this " Prælatus " gives complete assent by saving that " Catholic education, instead of being a child of the present, is a slave of the past, and instead of imparting the spirit of free into the education in this country no less than that in Europe.

He concludes by warning the Catholic Church of America to heed these essons of "that social and intellectual retrogression which has made a Catholic Europe a thing of past history."

Long and Short.

The case of Mr. and Mrs. ALBERT E. JUILLERAT of this town is strange and sad. The lady applied for alimony and counsel fee in a suit for separation. The lord answered with an affidavit that may drip with truth, and certainly drips with tears. Here is the marrow

"This plaintiff is a hot-tempered woman of great pride, who seems to have taken too much to heart the fact that she has married a man so much shorter than she is. She has refused to walk with me in the street, and frequently when she has walked with me hid her wedding ring so that people would not know that she and I were married. am ready and willing to give my wife the best home I can, and it is ready and waiting for her. I cannot increase my size nor otherwise change myself to suit the plaintiff in this action."

He cannot, by taking thought, add to his stature. The lady should re- evus, a glory of Otsego county. Mr. member that, tall and justly proud as she is. Have not many great men had their coattails near the ground? The husband should have recited to the wife the affecting lines " How big was ALEX-ANDER, pa? " Also that short and sensible verse:

" My wife is tall and I am short, And that's the long and short of it."

The average of nature and the equality of the sexes are maintained by the law which the tall wife spurns. There is an attraction between the long and the brief. The sky-scraping man marries a dumpy little woman. She whose topknot grazes the stars mates with a little man. The folio and the diamond edition are foreordained for one another.

We beg the divinely tall lady to be

divinely fair to her shorter mate.

"Elegant" Patersonese.

The grammarians, philologians and lexicomaniacs give us no peace in the summer. They have all seasons for their own, but this is their busiest time. It would have been hotter than Tophet ever since the beginning of June if so many leaves of dictionaries and school grammars and "Elegant Extracts" had not been turned, fanning the air into coolness. The volunteer defenders of the English language are numberless and never take a rest. Even in darkest New Jersey they cease not from their labors, as this letter shows:

" TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIF: I notice in your interesting editorial on the correct use of the word 'team' the following sentence: 'But we don't need to go to the lawyers or dictionaries.' Is not this construction rather clumsy for THE SUN? In the interest of elegant construction as it usually CONSTANT READER. appears in THE SUN. " PATERSON, Aug. 19."

" Elegant " construction be hanged! The sentence at which the Patersonian turns up his nose says exactly what it was ordered to say. It is short, simple and clear. If it is clumsy, then all idiomatic English is clumsy. What would Jersey have us do; stick prunes and prisms into the mouth of speech and put the poor thing into corsets? Shall it feed on dried apples and raisins, and blow its nose pompously with a lace handkerchief whenever it wants to talk? May the horned devil fly away with such a strutting, mincing Miss Nancy of a language, picking its way delicately in its varnished shoes and holding its pouncet-box between thumb and finger! We want a sentence with blood and bowels in it, and have no use for your manikins and atomies. "We don't need to go to the lawyers or dictionaries," and we don't need to go to the carners and driers and preservemakers of Liglish. "I do a need to go to the Green Store;" how do you say that in "elegant " Patersonese? " It is not absolutely indispensable that I should betake myself to the verdant emporium." "The house's afire:" "the mansion is in process of combustion." I want a drink:" " I desiderate a modi-

pertussis."

Truth is, we don't care a plugged penny for "elegance," but may "Constant Reader " be " elegant " and happy! He's been writing from most parts of the United States and Canada for the LORD knows how many years. At last we know where he lives.

Has some flend of a doctor " put " you on "a diet?" Are you a hospital for indigestion and obliged to take thought of what you should eat? Have you given up eating of the fat and drinking of the sweet, forsworn the food you like and humbly tried to find the food that likes you? Poor soul! Come with us and visit once more the world where people feed. Tickle your nostrils with the steam and odor of that " monster clambake " which the Merritt Association gave at Rye Beach Wednesday. A mere breakfast; nothing serious and substantial; in the estimation of Westchester county just a bite for Queen MAB:

" Clam chowder, fried eels, clam fritters, creamed noked beef, coffee and cigars: 100 bushels of hard and soft clams, 900 chicken lobsters, 300 Philade phia chickens, 1,500 ears of green corn, 200 blue fish, 100 pounds of tripe and onlons, 500 loaves of white and brown bread, 6 tubs of butter for sauce

This breakfast was not served until noon. Most of the breakfasters had eaten a slight morning repast " to stay their stomachs. They had a hearty dinner in of lobster à la Newburg, Westchester omelet (beefsteak and onlons), Welsh rabbit, and Gorgonzola cheese and huckleberry pie. As Postmaster James Mer-RITT says, " We can't be too careful about what we eat in summer.'

Engaged men ought to be more careful. A rich man's daughter in Union Hill took two ounces of carbolic acid the other day because her fiance made an evening call on her which was " not as long as usual. We mention her father's wealth, because many prudent youths have no objection to a forehanded father-in-law. If they are lucky enough to become engaged, they must look to their steps and hours. The case craves wary walking. If the young man stays too long, ELIZY JANE may yawn in his face or papa growl and yell the time o' night. If he goes away too quiry, fosters the spirit of intellectual soon, the light of his eyes may try to snuff dishonesty and decay." And he refers herself out. A Congress of the Engaged should prescribe the minimum, the average and the maximum length of a call on the beloved one.

> Kentucky is famous for big men. A Kenicky woman too big to appear in court has been found. JANE WOOLSEY of Leitchfield was arrested for "moonshining." She proved to be the big full moon, sure enough. Marshal and deputies managed to get her up one flight of stairs, but they couldn't have only five feet five, but she weighs 420 pounds. The United States Commissioner has asked for permission to hold her trial outdoors. She has a width and weight that recommend her to mercy. She is a large offender who has offended little. Wednesday a merciful Magistrate of this town discharged without a fine a Bermudan six feet nine who had been drunk in proportion. His inches saved him. A monument of nature bedewed with rum still has a certain dignity and stirs compassion. JANE WOOL sey has a name of Queens and Cardinals. Let her go and grow up with the country.

High on the steeps of fame stands the name of the Hon. ORRA L. TIPPLE of Schenin the deep, but the birds that drink the air of heaven. He publishes and edits a paper, but even in that he cannot soar high enough. In the presence of thousands at the Schenevus Fair he went up in a balloon, boys, and down in a parachute without injury and to the joy of all beholders. Is there any higher-class journalist than the Hon. ORRA L. TIPPLE of Schenevus?

The Georgia negro who has appeared as the "Wild Man of Borneo" in divers circuses has had his horns removed. He had under his scalp a silver plate with two standards, in which two goat's horns had been inserted. You couldn't keep people away from the tent where it was his habit to bark and show his horns, according to a well-known custom of the inhabitants of the interior of Borneo. Every man knows his own business, but the man from Georgia and Borneo may have been great disadvantage, must do the same. unwise to part with his horns. They were valuable " properties " and tools of his profession. If wild men from Borneo ceases to be in demand, he could still have made a devil of a devil in a pantomime. Or after a change of horns he might have posed as the original of Mr. MARKHAM's " brother

Our esteemed contemporary, La Fronde of Paris, published on August 7 this singular statement concerning the coal-strike riots at Shenandoah:

"THE NEW YORK SUN, yesterday morning, in vited the Department of State to intervene in order to prevent bloodshed."

What notion of the State Department's functions in the American system is entertained by the estimable ladies who write and edit La Fronde? And whence did they derive their information about THE SUN?

The Deacon's Ox Goad.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: There is n other oath so effective as plain "damn it" when the necessity arises for saying something extra. An old Methodist deacon was out in the woods alone with a pair of oxen drawing logs. This business s about as tantalizing to the disposition of a horse or an ox as any can be, for in snatching a log along over the ground it is bound to strike every obstruction it meets with and to bring everything up standing. This soon uses up the spirit of even a good-natured draught animal, and the result is a balk each time. Such was the experience of the old deacon. After he had tried all the little oaths perate circumstances, he determined that some thing more was absolutely necessary. Stooping down and gazing carefully in every direction, and assuring himself that not a soul was within hearing distance, he took his gad and laid it on for fair, and exclaimed, "Now, damn you, draw," The result was a perfect success, and the business of the day proceeded satisfactorily.

JOHN F. BAXTER. NEW YORK, Aug. 20.

" Muckibus." TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Here is an other synonym for "jagged." Have you not read of the fine lady in Walpole, who said, "If I drink more I shall be 'muckibus'?" (found in "The Virginlans"). Can any philological "sharp" give the derivation of muckibus? NEW YORK, Aug. 21.

The Tenor, the Automobile and the Tramcar.

From the London Dally News. M. Alvarez, the tenor, has had a very bad motorcar accident at Eu, near Dieppe. According to what purports to be an authentic account of the mishap, the vocalist was piloting his car, in which were, with himself, his wife, his child and a priest. when he came into collision with a tramear. M. Alvarez escaped with a few bruises, but the other occupants of the car were rather seriously injured. The tenor assaulted the tram-driver, stating that cum of alcoholic beverage." "Baby's he and his party had made every effort to notify the danger ahead. The affair will be brought be

pledge of our affections is suffering from | CHANGES IN INFANTRY TACTICS. The Development of Tactics-New Infantry Formations Resulting From the

Boer War-Relieving Troops in Battle. In all branches of natural science the study of their development has led to generalizations which not only prove useful in adding to the world's general knowledge, but also indicate the paths of probable further development.

The application of this principle to tactics is difficult because the younger military world is so occupied with the study of the ever widening field of military technical science that there is little time left for the study of the development of tactics, or what may be termed the philosophy of tactics. Unfortunately, too, some of the great authorities on tactics have intimated that a study of experiences of the remote past is unfruitful (meaning merely that too much time was being devoted to the older wars and too little to the more recent), and this was excuse enough for most officers to

neglect this subject entirely. Nevertheless, this study is of vast importance, especially if made in the light of actual experience in the battlefields of the past forty years.

In the present day there is a tendency to verestimate the technical and mechanical in battle, and there is consequently danger of forgetting that all that belongs to a battle, all the battle factors, are intimately related and closely bound together by defithe evening; and at 11:15 P. M., all partook | nite forces and laws. Many of the theories governing the tactics of to-day are really only half truths, and these, as is well known, are always the most dangerous, because they fetter the spirit and prevent clear recognition of the other half.

The tactics of our day are not in that quiet, settled and definite state so necessary for favorable results in actual war. This is a period of transition, of unrest. But similar periods have occurred before. The constantly increasing effect of firearms, in the present as in the past, is opposed by factors quite as important and more permanent and unchanging, which limit their full use, namely, the configuration of the ground, the object of the battle, and, more important than either, the soldier himself.

The modern firearms have greatly inreased the importance of the configuration of the ground, and it is even asserted as an incontrovertible fact that the attack over perfectly open ground has become impossible.

Now, while this may be true in a general way, it can readily be shown that it really is one of the half truths.

The tactical strength of open ground depends entirely on the threatened fire effect beyond it, and may therefore vary greatly, not only according to the numerical strength of the troops occupying the position, but also according to the spirit of the defender, and the necessity for econogot her any further, even with the aid of a mizing the ammunition supply. There are, derrick. She stuck. The Court House was | therefore, elements of weakness as well not built for such as she. Her majestic as of strength in such a position, and the bulk dwarfed it. She doesn't reach far, former can be taken advantage of by the attacker. Moreover, the tactical strength of open ground is only relative for another rason, namely, because the attacker can rarely be compelled to make his attack over it, and then the defender may sadly miss at other points the troops he placed there to defend it, or he may have overesimated its natural strength and placed oo weak a force to hold it, so that what had been his strength has actually become his weakness.

Indeed, open ground must be like a marsh, as of doubtful practicability, and like the latter must be reconnoitred and tested, to see if it is really practicable or impracticable, and, if the former, wherein its weakness may consist, or how its strength may be overcome. Such a piece of ground would not be occupied at once by large forces, but here and there small detachments would hunt up the practicable TIPPLE doesn't imitate the fish that tipple paths under cover, and then these detachments would be gradually strengthened till they could hold down the defender's fire to the point where fresh forces from the rear could cross the open spaces without

too great losses.

This brings us to a very old method, may be seen, not a new one at all, and this because it is the natural method of the dis-

persed order. Now, let us see why it was that the now general method of using very dense of skirmishers came to be adopted. can only be explained by considering our second factor above referred to, namely the object of the battle.

It is a fundamental principle in battle that the entire power of the army, its full fire effect, should be put into action at once, without delay. This explains our present dense skirmish lines. But, while this result is the statement of the st dense skirmish lines. But, while this would be the tendency on both sides originally, yet, if one of the adversaries violates this principle and proceeds, in order to obtain more favorable conditions, to first weaken his opponent, the latter, if he does not desire to enter the decisive action at a combat, therefore, which first designed to engage the available forces in full, has thus ecome divided into two epochs, a prepara-ory engagement and a decisive action, tory engagement and a decisive action, and this is a characteristic to-day of all actions, except rencontre fights, wherein the moral effect of surprise is regarded as greater than the material effects result-

greater than the material enects resulting from the preparatory engagement.

This, again, is no new idea, but can be traced in all times and throughout the history of tactics. The object of the preliminary action is not alone to weaken the enemy but also to serve the purpose of giving security and information; in other words, it is a forced reconnoissance on a large scale. It is another factor, derived from the study of the philosophy of tactics, as exemplified in its development

or counteracting the increased effect of The third and last factor is the individual soldier, regarded as a battle element, not only in his physical but also in his moral characteristics, and his effect on battle formations and the conduct of the action. The importance of the individual soldier as a factor in overcoming or resisting fire effect is, of course, due to what we gen-erally call moral effect. The moral effect of merely threatening is well known; indeed it is the effect of threatening that does the work in the decisive flank attack or the bayonet charge, and has the desired effect even without any material effect or action at all. So it is with fire; it is not alone the material effect (the number of hits) that counts, but every projectile that passes close to the individual soldier has an effect which takes away a little of his morale,

his spirit. Due to a grave misconception on this point the theory of mass fire resulted regarded only hits as having any effect, and considered every miss, even though each shot passed close to an individual, as having no more effect than if it had not been fired. From this theory came the dense line of skirmishers, a veritable firing machine so regarded and so handled. But this moral effect on the individual exists never theless, and the excitement will cause bad shooting by the best of troops. Even this has its effect, however, subject to cer-

tain laws, and this is often great.

The knowledge of this moral effect can be utilized on the battlefield, for the troops in the lines back of the firing line will feel instinctively that such unaimed fire is not so effective as their own aimed fire, and will consequently, especially in the pauses that occur in all fights, from various causes, be able to cross the stretches of ope

ground.

Moreover, although entire organizations
may never have fired away all their ammay never have fired away all their ammunition, it is a fact that on many a battle-field in the past forty years parts of the firing line found themselves in this situation. So that the question of ammunition supply is still another factor by which the vaunted fire effect of modern small arms can accessionally be constructed. arms can occasionally be counteracted.

The British experiences in South Africa have led some authorities to propose new forms for the infantry attack. This has been particularly the case in Germany.

The present German drill regulations of 1888 allow commanders to "act according to the circumstances," thus allowing them complete liberty of action in the mode of attack. Under such circumstances it is immaterial if the regulations designate 100 or 130 metres as the most favorable battle front for a company, or specify the differences between attack over open and differences between attack over open and over covered ground; the commander is always at liberty to exercise his judgment as to the best method to be adopted under

any given circumstances. But, were definite form were definite forms of attack prescribed all this would end, and in future attacks would be attempted as the British attempted them, "by advancing against the enemy merely with legs, not with rifles," as one critic has it. Schemes and forms for attack are only a disadvantage, individu-alization is the only correct principle of conducting battles under the modern con-ditions of fire effect—freedom of individual action and individual responsibility.

In spirit our own drill regulations recognize this freedom of action, but in the wording they should be broadened, because, although no officer has yet been called to account for his particular mode of conducting a fight, yet under the regulations it is possible to do so.

It is now well understood that the relieving of a firing line in action, replacing

lieving of a firing line in action, replacing it by other troops, is impossible. Never-theless, it is remarkable how recently this

principle has been generally accepted.

In the French-Italian campaign of 1859
it was still commonly practised and was
the cause of many of the Austrian defeats,
but in spite of that they failed to recognize the spite of that they falled to recognize it as such and their drill regulations of 1863 still prescribed it. But, in spite of this, they practised it seldom in the war with Prussia in 1866, probably because of their experiences in 1859.

The Germans in 1866 still used the drill regulations of 1847, but had orders not to

regulations of 1847, but had orders not to relieve the firing line any oftener than absolutely necessary. There were but a few cases in this war where such a measure was adopted by the German troops. Even as late as the war of 1870-71, however, rare cases of such action occurred, but the vance guard was no longer relieved, it was merely strengthened by fresh troops arriv-ing. Indeed, the regulations of 1876 still prescribed the relieving of lines, and it was not until 1888 that the method was definitely abandoned.

A fighting line to-day knows that it can-not be relieved, but must remain in action till the end. The only way to assist it is reënforcements and keep it supplied with ammunition.

TO STUDY OTHER WATER SYSTEMS Merchants' Association Sending an Experi to Europe for Suggestions for Us.

The Merchants' Association has engaged Columbus O. Johnson, who was Water Register under the Strong administration, to make a tour of the principal European cities and report on their water systems. The association expects to develop facts and information which will be of value in connection with its efforts to secure a better water supply at an early date. Mr. Johnson will sail for Glasgow to-morrow.

TIPPERS AND TIPS.

A Good Word for New York's Restauran Walters and Cabmen.

To the Editor of The Sun—Sir: After reading in The Sun that a waiter in New York had refused a twenty-five-cent tip because it was not large enough, having occasion to go to the city, out of curiosity I thought I would test the matter. I ate several meals at restaurants in different parts of the city, and at each place, after receiving a check for the amount due, I put the question to the waiter: "Well, sir, how much ought I to pay the waiter?" The answer was without exception something in this wise: "I will leave that to you." Then I said: "I read in a New York paper that a waiter down here refused to accept a twenty-five-cent tip because it was not large enough." Each waiter showed genuine surprise. The following are some of their comments:

"Guess he must have been one of those Waidorf-Astoria fellows who didn't need to work."

"Never heard of such impudence. We are thankful for favors."

"I would have enough to retire on if I got TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: After

"I would have enough to retire on if I got cents for every meal

one going back on a quarter.

"Aren't you fooling? I never heard of any

My experience this last visit to New York with waiters was of the same sort I have always had in your city. The waiters doubtedly know that I am not a New York man. Waiters can tell that at a glance; but I have always found them a most accommo dating, good-natured, pleasant lot of fellows dating, good-natured, pleasant lot of fellows. They are without doubt extremely sensitive, and quick to resent ill-natured, cranky, boorish treatment, but if they are treated fairly, they will treat fairly and faithfully those they serve. I have had like experience with New York cabmen. They are very obliging I have never yet found one surly, and the only objection I ever had was that occasionally one of them was too anylous to please. one of them was too anxious to please.

Here is a sample: During my last visit I hired a hansom of a driver standing at a curbstone at a stipulated price, for four hours, then to be left a certain steamboat dock. My stone at a stipulated price, for four hours, then to be left a certain steamboat dock. My man was extremely obliging, cheerful and courteous. His services took him beyond his dinner hour, but I noticed that he fed his horse by the aid of a nose-bag while I was stopping at a store, and gave him water at a drinking fountain. When I paid the price I handed him a sufficient tip to buy him a dinner. You should have seen him smile! It was a grin that covered his whole face. Then he went down into the boot of his vehicle and fetching out a copy of a popular magazine handed it to me, saying; "Some one left this on the seat. Maybe you would like to read it on your way home." Did I accept the gift? Most assuredly, It was tendered in the right spirit. I thanked him, and we both "hoped" we would meet again.

Kinoston, N. Y., Aug. 18.

KINGSTON, N. Y., Aug. 18.

A Glorification of Toxas. From the Reminiscences of Edward Everett Hale in

Physically, Texas is a paradise, and always has been, since its written history began. I have never been in southern Mexico, but I think I know something of Mexico: and I have seen every State between New Brunswick and the Rio Grande. I am quite sure that Texas, as large a region as ce, has by far the finest natural advantage of any region between Labrador and the Isthmus of Panama.

It seems therefore a little queer that while Mex leo got itself well settled by Europeans, even in Cortes's times, and while there were Frenchmen in Canada and Englishmen in Virginia as early as Jamestown, there were no Spanish settlements f wider range than military posts in the whole of Texas. This is the more queer because you find passages which show that intelligent people knew ow fine a country it was. Thus, old Judge Sewall two hundred years ago, has one of his fine weird visions in which he suggests that the New Jerusalem will be established there. I suppose the truth to be that the Spanish Gov

emors of Mexico were afraid of English and Ameri can aggression on the north, and meant to keep a desert between the Mississippi and their sliver

> One Discontented Soul. I want to go and live in -Where everything is hot: Where summer time is summer time, Not like the kind we've got.

Where chilling rains are seldom known And winter winds are shy. Where frappéed summer does not make The almanac a lie.

To wander in the groves And do not have to take along A full supply of stoves. Where sudden changes do not come To nip the corn and oats

Where pienic parties may go forth

In August overcoats. Where rheumatism does not rack Our frames with twitching aches

We don't wake up in shakes. Where one may wear his Panama. With little danger that it will

Be bitten by the frost I want to live where summer time Is summer time for fair And with a shiver down my back

I'd start right now for there.

OVERTAXATION OF IRELAND. A Correspondent Who Wishes That Mr.

Claney Had Moved for Home Rule. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir While I feel under obligation, as an Irishman, to thank you for your able editorial under the caption "Is Ireland Overtaxed?" I wish to say that I regret that Mr. Clancy did not move a different resolution than the one you quote, namely, "that the overtaxation established by the Royal Commission con-

stituted a serious grievance." His argument seems to me capable of the interpretation that frishmen agree to the Act of Union, but consider that they have a "serious grievance" in the fact that the erms of the act have not been carried out in regard to taxation. Many people in Eng-land and Scotland, and many in America. are liable to put such an interpretation on

Mr. Clancy's resolution. As an advocate of Ireland's rights, I beg leave to present an amended resolution before the court of American public opinion and to say that the overtaxation established by the Royal Commission constitutes an additional reason for the restoration of home rule in Ireland, inasmuch as it establishes and proves some of the evil results of the Act of Union, which was obtained by a system

and proves some of the evil results of the Act of Union, which was obtained by a system of force and fraud termed "infamous" by Mr. Gladstone.

I prefer to adopt the phrase "restoration of home rule" because I wish the cause to succeed and not to court defeat. The phrase adopted by Daniel O'Connell, "repeal of the Union," was llable to be misunderstood by the English people, who might think it meant severance of the Union or complete separation. I could not go before the English people and ask them to agree to complete separation. It would be too foolish a thing to do, even for Ireland; it would be as foolish as if the American Government politely requested Spain to agree to decapitation and give up all her possessions without a blow. Such a request, or demand, can be made only with rifles and artillery, not by Constitutional agitation.

But the Irish people are engaged in Constitutional agitation of home rule in Ireland and federation Successive British Governments have done our cause considerable service in one way, As the Act of Union was migning obtained.

our cause considerable service in one way.

As the Act of Union was plainly obtained
by force and fraud, which prove our nonby force and fraud, which prove our non-consent, so the coercion acts which have been in force during nearly all the past one hundred years prove beyond dispute that the Irish people have never since given con-sent to the Act of Union, because the Govern-ment in every case alleged disloyalty, or non-consent, as the grounds for introducing those coercion acts. MICHAEL CORCORAN. BROOKLYN. Aug. 20.

Annexation Talk in Jamaica From the Kingston, Jamaica, Daily Gleaner.

We have not the slightest sympathy with he opinions of those who cry "annexation" whenever they are dissatisfied with conditions in this colony. It is difficult to conceive how intelligent men can still lend themselves to such a practice. At one time it seemed to have formed a very good device for rousing the Home Government into paying some attention to the West Indian colonies, but that time is past, and no one with common sense believes that such a trick has any chance of succeeding in its object now. It is astonishing to hear the cry uttered by men who are supposed to be leaders of opinion in Jamaica. It may be but a grumble, which every Englishman, and certainly every Jamaican, thinks he has a right to indulge in; but responsible men ought to be sensible of the responsi-bility which attaches to their public utter-

From the Presbyterian Australia has been looked upon by many person s the land of wild and reckless living. change has come over it within recent years. Melbourne, especially, has lately been the scene of noteworthy revival. In a great simultan It was preceded by a far-reaching league, in which some 15,000 persons participated. The misdoners numbered fifty, and the services were held, not the ordinary churches, but in town halls or tents. Denominationalism was lost sight of, for the time being, and all Protestants gave themselves, heart

and soul, with the utmost unity and fullest coopera-tion, to the common work of soul-saving. The popular response was spontaneous and ordial. No building appeared to be large enough cordial. to hold the crowding audiences which assembled to hear the Word of Life. Even the exhibition building, an immense structure, was so filled at while crowds gathered about it, that it seemed, it is said, like "a besieged building " The theatres lost their fascination for the man the Christian service evinced the greater drawing

power. One writing of the depth and extent of the gra clous work maintains that it established, as never before, "how deep and strong is the religious instinct in the Australian character," and "how over-whelming is its response to any adequate appeal." Several facts are mentioned in support of declaration. Australia has, "proportionately, more churches than any other country, the number eing 6,013, or 210 to every 100,000 people. land has 144 churches to every 100,000. Russia only 55 to the same number."

Prince Tuan in Extle.

From the Japan Mall. Prince Tuan has gradually faded from the hort zon of public observation. We have it now, on the authority of an imperial decree, that he was a Boxer leader, indeed the Boxer leader. It is impossible, therefore, that he should ever return active official life or even to lawfully tolerated We find the following reference to existence. him in the North China Daily News.

"Prince Tuan, and his second lieutenant, Duke Lan-Tuan's chief lieutenant, Prince Chuang, hav-ing committed suicide by hanging himself at Puchou, Shansi, last year—are, according to a Lanchou, capital of Kansu, despatch, at present said to be residing at Tihua (Urumtsi), the capital of Chinese Turkestan, which city is about one month's ordinary journey on horseback, west of Chlaoukuan, a gateway cut in the most western portion of the Great Wall. It is reported that the two exiles continue to "lord it over the natives" in that part of the Emperor's dominions, and by their braggadocio and swagger and loud talking of what they intend to do soon against the "West ern Barbarians," manage to impress their im-portance upon the simple-minded Kashgarians and Tunganis - Chinese Mohammedans -of Urumtst, Turfan and Hami, the latter two cities being often visited by the two in their search for followers and partisans. Owing to the near connection of the two ex-Boxers to the imperial occupant of the throne even the Governor of Chinese Turkestan iare not slight them."

Bryan a Splendid and a Diplomatic "Feeder." From the Democrat of Washington, Jowa.

He is a splendid feeder, and between the two of us Mrs. Blair's elegant dinner suffered vast devastation. We had corn and potatoes and roast beef. Bryan sent back his order for a second helping of He said he was very fond of corn. What could be more popular in Iowa, the greatest corn State of them all? If any Republican farmer could see how Bryan likes roasting cars, and then refuse vote for him, he must be unpatriotic. And when it came time to change plates for the second course or third course—there were so many we could not keep track of them—Bryan said: "Wait a minute: I am not quite done." That did

not displease the hostess, do you think?

And then when the fried chicken course arrived we could have made a Conference of Method preachers look like thirty cents, the way we destroyed spring chicken. And at first Bryan refused sweet potatoes, but upon second thought he was reminded that Columbus Junction was the home of the sweet potato, and out of loyalty to home industries he took a big one, and it went the way of the rest. What diplomacy! And of the ice cream and cake he took full measure. What more de lightful guest could you ask than one who cats of everything, and really a good doal of everything?